



Union of Concerned Scientists

Citizens and Scientists for Environmental Solutions

August 1, 2008

Mary Nichols, Chairperson
California Air Resources Board
1001 I St., P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

RE: Collected Comments on AB 32 Draft Scoping Plan

Dear Chairperson Nichols:

The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) applauds the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for developing the nation's most comprehensive plan to date for reducing the pollution that causes global warming.

UCS is pleased to submit the enclosed compact disc containing comments from over three thousand, two hundred Californians who join us in encouraging you to ensure the Draft Scoping Plan include three important elements:

- A compelling request to the California legislature to give CARB the authority and direction to implement a vehicle feebates, or clean car discount, program.
- A compelling request to the California legislature to increase the state's renewable portfolio standard (RPS) to 33 percent by the year 2020.
- A commitment to carefully and rigorously limit the use of compliance offsets.

We welcome the opportunity to work together as this extremely important and cutting edge work on global warming proceeds.

Sincerely,

Chris Carney
Union of Concerned Scientists

SAMPLE COMMENT FROM COMPACT DISC

Chairperson Mary Nichols

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger and Chairperson Nichols,

I'm writing to thank you for your leadership in creating a far-reaching and visionary draft plan for reducing the pollution that causes global warming in California. The draft plan is the furthest step any state has taken to put the brakes on global warming.

I especially would like to thank you for clearly recommending that a third of our state's electricity come from clean, renewable sources like solar and wind power. More renewable energy enhances California's potential to lead the country in new, clean energy jobs and technologies.

I want to make sure that the final plan is as strong as possible, holding polluters fully accountable. In particular, I encourage you to carefully limit the amount and types of "offsets" that would be allowed. A strong plan will ensure that polluters can't just buy their way into compliance with promises of emissions reductions--promises that look good on paper but often fail to come to pass in the real world. Reliance on too many offsets is bad for business, bad for the economy, and bad for the long-term health of our environment.

I also urge you to avoid rewarding big polluters with free pollution permits. A strong plan will level the playing field by requiring polluters to pay for the global warming pollution they create.

As you know, California's plan for cleaning up the pollution that causes global warming will be a model for the rest of the country and the world. Please make sure that there aren't any delays in implementing the landmark AB 32 law and that the final plan is strong and effective and holds polluters fully accountable.

Sincerely,